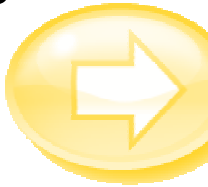




NOVEMBER 2008
Volume XXXVIII
Number 3

McLean Area Branch AAUW of Virginia News

Upcoming Programs



November Program Development and Gender Equality

On Tuesday, Nov. 18, Nadereh Chamlou, senior advisor from the World Bank, will discuss “Gender Equality and Its Importance for Development” at the McLean Area Branch meeting at 7 p.m. Chamlou works with gender issues projects in the Middle East and North Africa.

One of the World Bank’s development goals is “Equality for Women.” While women’s health and education have improved substantially in most developing countries, progress is lagging on their economic opportunities. While progress on women’s education is essential, it is not enough to guarantee equality if women don’t have access to good jobs, credit lines, and ownership of assets in their own right.

Come learn about the obstacles to women’s equality and what the World Bank is doing to overcome them. Guests are welcome, particularly those from the education and international communities. The meeting will be held at the McLean Community Center.

Life in the Foreign Service Holiday Luncheon to Feature Ambassador

Our December holiday luncheon will feature Ambassador Linda Jewell (ret.), who will tell us about life in the Foreign Service of the United States and her efforts to promote equal treatment of women.

Ambassador Jewell is a graduate of Yale University and received a master’s degree from Johns Hopkins/SAIS. She served as a career Foreign Service Officer in diverse overseas posts on four continents, and her most recent posting was Ambassador to Ecuador. She is married to a retired Foreign Service Officer.

The luncheon will be held at Monterey Bay Fish Grotto, 1800 Tysons Blvd., Tysons Corner, Wednesday, Dec. 3 at noon, (social time begins at 11:30 a.m.).

Marjorie Lewis, Co-Vice President Program

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And More!

From the Membership Desk

Welcome to another McLean Branch year of

Action Activities Unity Work

A special welcome to the following new members: *E.A.B. Brown, Lisa Burt, Amy Caldwell, Debbie Glaser, Paula Haefner, Mary Hager, Aubrey Hamilton, Nancy Pendarvis Harris, Janet W. Hartnett, Constanza Howell, Evelyne McFeaters, Frances Mooney, and Mardy*

Stevens. We hope everyone takes advantage of our monthly meetings, together with participation in study groups and Lobby Corps.

Although you, whether new or old members, might not be able to attend each and every event, your membership is valued and your comments important. Please share with us ideas or comments you have about any additional group or program suggestions.

*Mary deTray and Dawn Schulz,
Co-Vice Presidents Membership*

**McLean
Area
Branch**

**2008/2009
EXECUTIVE
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This is certainly a stressful fall! In the past month we have all been buffeted by the gloomy economic news, not only of the situation in the United States, but around the world. Add to that the winding down of the election campaigns that have grown increasingly negative in the final weeks and we all need some more positive things to focus on.

Well, the value of your AAUW membership continues to rise! We have had a great start to the fall. We are still basking in the extraordinary success of our 39th Annual Book Sale which enables us to give financial aid to help talented women complete their education. We delighted in being able to meet our local scholarship winners and three AAUW fellowship recipients at our September meeting. And at our October meeting we had an informative discussion with two of our state Delegates about the process for implementing transportation projects in our area.

At our first "Dining Out" of the year, 12 members and two husbands enjoyed good food and great fellowship at Clyde's Restaurant at Tyson's Corner. Watch your e-mail for news about our next Dining Out evening and plan to join us if you can. If you do not use e-mail please let *Linda Wells* know if you would like to receive a phone call about the next dining out event.

At our branch meeting on Nov. 18, we will hear from Nadereh Chamlou, a senior advisor at the World Bank, on how their development projects are striving to increase economic opportunities for women. I look forward to learning what they are accomplishing in various countries. And be sure to send in your reservation for our December Holiday Luncheon promptly. The date is Wednesday, Dec. 3 and our speaker will be Ambassador Linda Jewell, former ambassador to Ecuador. For more details about the luncheon, see the separate article and the attached reservation form.

Get more involved in the other activities offered by McLean AAUW! Check out the front pages of our 2008/2009 Membership Directory for a list of our special interest groups. Then call up the chairs to learn about a group that will both exercise your mind and give you more opportunities for fellowship within our branch.

Presidents' Corner

Did you know that McLean Area Branch was started in 1969? That means that our 40th Anniversary is coming up next year. How shall we celebrate? Let us have your ideas for an anniversary celebration.

And above all – DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!!

Ginger



Ginger MacEwen (left) and her husband and Sandra Sieber at Clydes of Tysons Corner Dining Out, Oct. 13

From the Editor

The McLean Area Branch *News* is published monthly, September through June, except for a bimonthly issue for December and January. Articles are due the 20th of the month preceding each issue. Articles should be in final form and identified as being for the newsletter. Guidelines for your articles are welcome as are suggestions for the newsletter.

Please send your articles for the **Dec/Jan News** by **November 20** via e-mail or postal mail.

prbacher@verizon.net

Pam Bacher 1442 Towlston Rd.,
Vienna, VA 22182

Newsletter Editor: Pam Bacher, 703/281-2595

Mailing: Barbara Carr, 703/356-3127

AAUW to Launch Major STEM Study

Work to Begin in January

A AUW has won a two-year, \$249,000 grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to launch a major study of the causes and dynamics behind the low participation of women and girls in the science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields. This is AAUW's fourth grant from NSF.

Set for a 2010 release, the study has the potential to garner public support for policies to even out the disparities in the higher-paying, male-dominated STEM fields, in which women are woefully underrepresented.

"Our report will sound the alarm," said AAUW Executive Director Linda D. Hallman, CAE. "As a nation, we can't afford to take baby steps toward achieving parity, especially when we're facing a shortage of professionals in the STEM fields. How can we stay competitive in the global economy when half of our population isn't fully engaged in those areas?"

While progress has been made in many STEM fields, women remain far behind in critical areas, including computer science. High school girls represent only 17 percent of computer science Advanced Placement (AP) test takers. College-educated women earn only 27 percent of bachelor's degrees in mathematics and computer science. AAUW's new research report aims to help turn back this trend and ensure that girls and women are fully represented in these critical STEM fields.

The research on innate gender differences, the effects of stereotypes and bias, mentoring, and differences in performance on standardized tests are among the topics to be covered in the new report. Looking at the most important studies from the past 15 years, the AAUW report will connect common themes across the disciplines, explore the reasons behind the persistent gender inequity, and highlight key findings from the existing STEM research. Written with the general reader in mind, the report will include personal stories to illustrate the problem.

"The excellent work that has been done in this area too often does not reach the public because it is narrow in scope or too technical," said Catherine Hill, Ph.D., lead investigator on the report. "This project has attracted a stellar panel of experts from the scientific and research community because they recognize the need for a reader-friendly compilation of research."

AAUW has received three previous grants from the National Science Foundation on initiatives to remedy gender inequities in STEM fields. These grants include support for the National Girls Collaborative Project, which facilitates collaboration among organizations, institutions, and businesses committed to expanding the participation of girls and women in STEM; the research report, *Under the Microscope: A Decade of Gender Equity Projects in the Sciences*; and the creation and distribution of the video *Tech Savvy: Educating Girls in the New Computer Age*. "It is an honor for AAUW to receive these grants, which come with an accompanying responsibility that we take seriously," Hallman said.

Lisa Goodnight
202-785-7738, goodnightl@aauw.org

AAUW research reports also are used to effect social change on Capitol Hill and across the nation.

Educational Foundation Celebrates Its 50th Anniversary

In 1958, The AAUW Educational Foundation was officially established to administer AAUW's fellowship and grant programs, advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the United States and around the globe. The Educational Foundation remains one of the world's largest funding

sources for graduate women.

The McLean Area Branch has endowed two fellowships and one grant that support three women with post-graduate fellowships every year, an International Fellow, an American Fellow, and a Career Development Grant.

Our International Fellow is Faith Cheruiyot. Faith and her husband joined us at the September reception. Faith is a student at American University Washington College of Law. She is

(Continued on page 4)

PUBLIC POLICY

November – First Things First

Be sure to vote on Tuesday, Nov. 4, 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. at your local polling place. And thanks to those of you who planned ahead and voted absentee if you will not be here on that Tuesday.



As you vote, keep in mind the AAUW public policy principles: as AAUW members we support civil rights; a fair and independent judiciary; quality public education; economic, social and physical well-being of all persons; the arts and humanities; and global interdependence. And be sure to examine your copy of the AAUW Congressional Voting Record for the 110th Congress. AAUW has made this document available for every AAUW member. One can study the legislative votes important to AAUW and the record or score for each Senator and Representative.

November – Another Thing

Take advantage of the invitation to attend the AAUW Capitol Lobby Corps Open House; see the flyer on page 6 in this newsletter.

The Economy and the Injured Fowl (Lame Duck)

According to the Oct. 17 edition of AAUW's *Washington Update*, Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-NV) announced support for taking up an economic recovery bill after the November elections. Possible components of such a bill could include energy assistance for the poor, extended unemployment benefits, aid for states, and funds for infrastructure projects. Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) called for such

“EF 50th”

(Continued from page 3)

working on an advanced degree so that when she returns to Kenya she will be able to focus on development and women's rights, especially in the areas of trade and investment.

The American Fellow is Linda Otaigbe. She is in her second year of law school at the University of Virginia. Linda is interested in practicing international law and hopes someday to work in Nigeria as a public official. Originally from Nigeria, Linda's family now lives in Northern Vir-

ginia and she hopes to be able to join us at a branch meeting in the future.

Our Career Development Grant went to Kimberly Bolhince. Kim is studying for an advanced degree in public health at George Mason University. She is involved in working with aids patients in Africa.

Post-Election Analysis Call

On Thursday, Nov. 6 at 7 p.m. ET, the AAUW's Public Policy staff will hold a members-only conference call to discuss the events of Election Day and discuss their portent for AAUW. They will discuss AAUW's legislative agenda for the new Congress and roles that we, as members, can play. There is an RSVP required. Go to AAUW.org for information.

Finally – Back to Virginia

Marjorie Lewis, branch program co-vice president, produced an outstanding and informative evening for us on Oct. 21. AAUW branch member and Delegate Margaret Vanderhye and Delegate Thomas D. Rust provided attendees with in-depth information about Virginia transportation projects and legislation. They gave freely of their time to answer many questions.

One point to remember: a member asked what is the best way to communicate with an elected official about an issue? Del. Rust was very specific in his answer: a personal visit, a personal phone call, or a personally written e-mail or letter.

Sources include AAUW Washington Update and Mission and Action.

Mary Lou Melley, Public Policy Chair

These women thank you all for your continued commitment to the Educational Foundation.

Peggy Stotz, Chair, Educational Foundation

Connections

An Invitation

Reston Herndon Hosts Russian Observers

Friends,

The purpose of this message is to let you know about a special project our branch has undertaken and to invite you to participate.

From Oct. 31 through Nov. 8, we will host a delegation of five Russians who are visiting the United States to observe the election.

Our application to host the group was facilitated by branch member Esther Pank, a former employee of the National Peace Foundation, which administers the program, with funding by a grant from the Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress. A committee of 20 branch members has prepared the program, and five branch members will serve as home hosts.

Activities planned include visits to campaign headquarters; meetings with political party officials; Election Day visits to polling places; briefings by elected officials including branch members State Senator Janet Howell and County Supervisor Cathy Hudgins; visits to our legislators on Capitol Hill; Washington sightseeing; and a visit to South Lakes High School to meet with students.

A highlight of the week will be our branch meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the Reston Community Center at Lake Anne. This "town meeting" will be open to the press and the community, and will feature the Russians talking about what is happening in Russia today and how their elections, local government, and volunteer organizations compare with ours.

If you would like to join us for this meeting or any other activity during the delegation's visit, please let me know.

*Carol Hurlburt,
Reston-Herndon AAUW Branch President
703/264-9054*

Morning Lit

By Jane Schmiedekamp

Margaret Hansen reviewed the Book group's selection for October, *Dreams From My Father* by Barack Obama. Look for an excellent review in the Dec./Jan. newsletter. However, for those who want to learn more about Obama, this book, in his own words, provides an insight into his personality and the forces that shaped him.

The next meeting of the book group will be Nov. 14 at 10 a.m. at the McLean Community Center. The book to be reviewed in November is *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Pettersen.

Great Decisions' New Year

By Chris Morrison

Our branch has two Great Decisions Groups that are sponsored by the American Foreign Policy Association. We meet eight times a year in members' homes to discuss timely topics and issues that the Association has chosen to highlight in its annual issue. One group meets at 9:30 in the morning on the third Tuesday of the month and the other meets at 7:30 in the evening on the first Monday of the month. If this interests you contact *Betsy Reddaway* (pbreddaway@verizon.net, 703/448-9195) for the evening group or *Chris Morrison* (chris7512@verizon.net, 703/356-1797) for the morning group.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Bridge

Nancy Richardson
703/759-4789
nrichardsn@aol.com

Current Events

Mary Lou Melley
703/536-6498
MelleyM@aol.com

Dining Out

Linda Wells
703/255-5275
Linda@tritec.com

Great Decisions Morning

Chris Morrison
703/356-1797
Chris7512@verizon.net

Evening

Betsy Reddaway
703/448-9195
pbreddaway@verizon.net

International Hospitality

Juanita Cullen
703/759-5112
juanitac1@cox.net

Morning Literature

Ramona Rayle
703/821-8503
monirayle@cox.net
Jane Schmiedekamp
703/938-6918
Alphajane@aol.com

“Be a part of history;
for us,
our daughters,
granddaughters,
sisters,
friends ...”



Do you want to make a difference in Washington?

Whether fighting for gender equity in education, championing equal pay, or supporting measures to improve economic security, AAUW's Lobby Corps is on the front line! Once a week, volunteer members and college student interns give AAUW a voice and a face on Capitol Hill.

OPEN HOUSE ORIENTATION

Nov. 6, 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
AAUW National Office,
1111 Sixteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Eligibility and Training

AAUW members as well as college students who study in the metropolitan Washington, DC area are welcome to join the Lobby Corps. No experience or expertise is necessary – only a commitment to promoting AAUW's policy priorities. Volunteers receive comprehensive training as well as briefings on key issues likely to come before Congress.

Lobby Process

Every Thursday morning Congress is in session – about 30 Thursdays a year – Lobby Corps is briefed on that week's priority and then proceeds to selected congressional offices in pairs to educate policy-makers (9:30 a.m.–noon). Members then provide feedback electronically to AAUW.

Be a part of history; for us, our daughters, granddaughters,
sisters, friends, and relatives.

For information or to RSVP for the open house, please contact Anne Hedgepeth, government relations coordinator, at hedgepetha@aauw.org or 202/785-7724.

Directory Updates

Please make the following correction to your directory.

McGowan Lucy B.
6800 Fleetwood Rd. #312

Please make the following additions to your directory.

Stevens Mardella (Mardy) 503/669-0452
245 NE 4th St. Gresham, OR 97030
mardy.stevens@verizon.net
PLU, BA; San Francisco State, MA.

Switzer Stephanie 703/821-2118
1453 McLean Mews,
McLean 22101 switsa@msn.com
U. of Washington, BA economics.



AAUW McLean Area Branch

Holiday Luncheon

Monterey Bay Fish Grotto

1800 Tysons Boulevard, McLean

Wednesday December 3, 11:30 a.m.

Speaker

Ambassador Linda Jewell

Former Ambassador to Ecuador

Luncheon

Guests will choose an entrée
from a luncheon menu.

Menu selections appear on the right.

All entrées accompanied by a
salad of mesclun greens
with choice of dressing,
wild rice pilaf, fresh vegetable,
rolls and butter

Ice Cream and Cookies

Coffee, tea, and soft drinks

Price includes gratuity and sales tax.

Valet parking & garage parking available.

Menu

Mahi-Mahi

Chargrilled or

Sautéed macadamia style

Yellow Fin Tuna

Chargrilled or

Chargrilled w black peppercorn
and green onion sauce

Salmon

Chargrilled or

Marinated in teriyaki sauce (chargrilled)

Dayboat Scrod

Lightly sautéed w bread crumb topping or
Sautéed in a marsala wine sauce
w artichoke hearts, olives, tomato, garlic

Chargrilled New York Strip Steak

Chicken Marsala

Friends, colleagues from other branches, and others are welcome!

Reservation

Name

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Cost is \$29 per Person

Make check payable to AAUW – McLean Area Branch

Mail by November 30 to Trianthe Dakolias, 1246 Stoneham Ct., McLean 22101



AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

Website: www.AAUW.org

NOVEMBER CALENDAR



- Tues, 4 7 p.m. *Board Meeting* at the Dolley Madison Library, McLean, lower conference room.
- 6 a.m – 7 p.m. *ELECTION DAY*
- Thurs, 6 7 p.m. *AAUW Members-only post-election conference call* * (AAUW.org for information)
- Fri, 14 10 a.m. *Morning Lit Meeting* at the McLean Community Center *
- Thurs, 20 *Deadline for the November News*
- Tues, 18 7 p.m. *Branch Meeting* at the McLean Community Center
- Sun, 30 *Deadline for Holiday Luncheon reservations* *

AND IN EARLY DECEMBER

- Tues, 2 7 p.m. *Board Meeting* at the Dolley Madison Library, McLean, lower conference room.
- Wed, 3 11:30 a.m. *McLean Area Branch Holiday Luncheon* at the Monterey Bay Fish Grotto *

* More information appears in this newsletter.

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

For membership information call **Mary de Tray 703/992-7526** or **Dawn Schulz 703/448-8711**



AAUW

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Vienna, VA 22182

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www.mcleanaauw.org

